

March 25, 1977

LB 484, 503

their right for taxing powers, are you familiar with that?

SENATOR SCHMIT: I have heard a little about it.

SENATOR MILLS: Is it in your committee?

SENATOR SCHMIT: I don't think it is, is it? Not this session.

SENATOR MILLS: Okay, thank you.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I think we kicked that around last time.

SENATOR MILLS: Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The question is the advancement of the bill. Record your vote. Record.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays.

PRESIDENT: The bill is advanced. LB 503.

CLERK: LB 503. Read title. There are no committee amendments.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: This bill was introduced by the committee at the request of the Department of Agriculture, specifically several of the dairymen and Dr. Kruse, our state veterinarian. The bill provides for increasing the indemnity on the cattle that are found infected with tuberculosis on the grade animals from \$25 per head to \$50 and on registered animals from \$50 to \$100. It also provides that the herd shall be reinspected every three years instead of every six years. The reason for the bill is this that we have had several outbreaks of tuberculosis in dairy herds in the past year and, of course, as you know, it is in the interest of public health that these herds be tested. The indemnity which is provided here does not in anyway reimburse the owner, merely a small compensation for the loss of the animal and for that reason I would recommend that the bill be advanced. I would also just like to say that the dairy herd owners themselves requested the requirement for testing the herd to be shortened or reduced from six years to three years because they felt that there would be much less chance of the disease spreading if the herds were reinspected every six years. It is strictly a public health and safety measure bill. There is a fiscal impact of approximately \$14,000 and there is no "A" bill required because they do have sufficient funds in the Department to provide for this. So there should not be any significant fiscal impact. I move that the bill be advanced.

PRESIDENT: Senator Keyes.

SENATOR KEYES: I think I will ask Senator Schmit a question. You say there is plenty of money in the fund now to pay this.

SENATOR SCHMIT: They have been able to take care of the indemnifications as they have come due, Senator.

SENATOR KEYES: Where do they get that money?